

AN ACT

RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES; ENACTING A DESCRIPTION OF AND
REQUIREMENTS FOR A STANDARDIZED SPECIAL REGISTRATION PLATE;
DESIGNATING A STANDARDIZED SPECIAL REGISTRATION PLATE WITH A LOGO
FOR ARMED FORCES RETIREES; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

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BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. A new section of the Motor Vehicle Code, Section 66-3-424 NMSA
1978, is enacted to read:

"66-3-424. STANDARDIZED SPECIAL REGISTRATION PLATES WITH
LOGOS.--

A. Standardized special registration plates with logos may be
authorized by statute to show state support for worthy public purposes. The
authorizing statute shall provide for collection of fees that, at a minimum, will cover the
costs to the division of development, manufacture and issuance of the special
registration plates and logos.

B. Standardized special registration plates, on the standardized areas,
shall:

(1) display the colors of the state flag, red lettering on a yellow
background;

(2) display the phrases "New Mexico USA" and "Land of
Enchantment";

(3) provide a space for applying the special registration logo,
centered at the left edge of the plate, between the attachment holes, beginning one-

fourth inch in from the edge of the plate and having the following dimensions: four and one-eighth inches in height and three and one-eighth inches in width; and

(4) provide a vehicle registration number, to be assigned by the division, that consists of five alphanumeric characters displayed to the right of the special logo area.

C. Special registration logos, except for the standard dimension specified in Paragraph (3) of Subsection B of this section, shall be left to the design discretion of the division, in consultation with the public purpose interest group that requests the special registration plate.

D. Standardized special registration plates with logos, when authorized by statute for a particular public purpose interest group, shall meet the requirements specified in this subsection prior to plate issuance by the division. The public purpose interest group, no later than the effective date of the authorizing statute:

(1) shall provide evidence acceptable to the division that it will generate a minimum number of prepaid applications as determined by the division for the special registration plate with logo;

(2) shall provide a prepayment to the division in an amount sufficient to cover the plate and logo cost of the initial order;

(3) shall provide a sample of the requested artwork design in a format specified by the plate manufacturer for the specialized logo; and

(4) in cases where the authorizing statute includes revenue-sharing with distribution directed to a particular group or fund, shall show that the recipient is a governmental entity or a fund authorized for the use of a governmental entity.

E. The division may promulgate rules for implementation of the provisions of this section."

Section 2. A new section of the Motor Vehicle Code, Section 66-3-424.1 NMSA 1978, is enacted to read:

"66-3-424.1. SPECIAL REGISTRATION PLATES FOR ARMED FORCES RETIREES.--

A. The department shall issue a standardized special registration plate with a logo specified in Section 66-3-424 NMSA 1978 indicating that the recipient is a retiree of the armed forces of the United States, if that person submits proof satisfactory to the department of retirement from the armed forces.

B. For a fee of fifteen dollars (\$15.00), which shall be in addition to the regular motor vehicle registration fees, any motor vehicle owner who is a retiree of the armed forces of the United States may apply for the issuance of a special registration plate as defined in Subsection A of this section. No two owners shall be issued identically lettered or numbered plates.

C. The fifteen-dollar (\$15.00) fee provided for in Subsection B of this section shall be waived for each registration period in which a validating sticker is issued under the provisions of Section 66-3-17 NMSA 1978, in lieu of the issuance of a special armed forces retiree plate.

D. The revenue from the special registration plates for the armed forces retirees' fee imposed by Subsection B of this section shall be distributed as follows:

(1) seven dollars (\$7.00) of the fee collected for each registration plate shall be retained by the department and is appropriated to the

department for the manufacture and issuance of the registration plates; and

(2) eight dollars (\$8.00) of the fee collected for each registration plate shall be paid to the state treasurer for credit to the motor vehicle suspense fund for distribution in accordance with Section 66-6-23 NMSA 1978."

Section 3. Section 66-6-23 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1978, Chapter 35, Section 358, as amended) is amended to read:

"66-6-23. DISPOSITION OF FEES.--

A. After the necessary disbursements for refunds and other purposes have been made, the money remaining in the motor vehicle suspense fund, except for remittances received within the previous two months that are unidentified as to source or disposition, shall be distributed as follows:

(1) to each municipality, county or fee agent operating a motor vehicle field office:

(a) an amount equal to six dollars (\$6.00) per driver's license and three dollars (\$3.00) per identification card or motor vehicle or motorboat registration or title transaction performed; and

(b) for each such agent determined by the secretary pursuant to Section 66-2-16 NMSA 1978 to have performed ten thousand or more transactions in the preceding fiscal year, other than a class A county with a population exceeding three hundred thousand or any municipality with a population exceeding three hundred thousand that has been designated as an agent pursuant to Section 66-2-14.1 NMSA 1978, an amount equal to one dollar (\$1.00) in addition to the amount distributed pursuant to Subparagraph (a) of this paragraph for each driver's license, identification card, motor vehicle registration, motorboat registration or title transaction

performed;

(2) to each municipality or county, other than a class A county with a population exceeding three hundred thousand or a municipality with a population exceeding three hundred thousand designated as an agent pursuant to Section 66-2-14.1 NMSA 1978, operating a motor vehicle field office, an amount equal to fifty cents (\$.50) for each administrative service fee remitted by that county or municipality to the department pursuant to the provisions of Subsection A of Section 66-2-16 NMSA 1978;

(3) to the state road fund:

(a) an amount equal to the fees collected pursuant to Section 66-7-413.4 NMSA 1978;

(b) an amount equal to the fee collected pursuant to Section 66-3-417 NMSA 1978;

(c) the remainder of each driver's license fee collected by the department employees from an applicant to whom a license is granted after deducting from the driver's license fee the amount of the distribution authorized in Paragraph (1) of this subsection with respect to that collected driver's license fee; and

(d) an amount equal to fifty percent of the fees collected pursuant to Section 66-6-19 NMSA 1978;

(4) to the local governments road fund, the amount of the fees collected pursuant to Subsection B of Section 66-5-33.1 NMSA 1978 and the remainder of the fees collected pursuant to Subsection A of Section 66-5-408 NMSA 1978;

(5) to the department:

(a) any amounts reimbursed to the department

pursuant to Subsection C of Section 66-2-14.1 NMSA 1978;

(b) an amount equal to two dollars (\$2.00) of each motorcycle registration fee collected pursuant to Section 66-6-1 NMSA 1978;

(c) an amount equal to the fees provided for in Subsection D of Section 66-2-7 NMSA 1978, Subsection E of Section 66-2-16 NMSA 1978, Subsections J and K of Section 66-3-6 NMSA 1978 other than the administrative fee, Subsection C of Section 66-5-44 NMSA 1978 and Subsection B of Section 66-5-408 NMSA 1978;

(d) the amounts due to the department pursuant to Paragraph (1) of Subsection E of Section 66-3-419 NMSA 1978, Subsection E of Section 66-3-422 NMSA 1978, Subsection E of Section 66-3-423 NMSA 1978 and Paragraph (1) of Subsection D of Section 66-3-424.1 NMSA 1978; and

(e) an amount equal to the registration fees collected pursuant to Section 66-6-6.1 NMSA 1978 for the purposes of enforcing the provisions of the Mandatory Financial Responsibility Act and for creating and maintaining a multilanguage noncommercial driver's license testing program;

(6) to each New Mexico institution of higher education, an amount equal to that part of the fees distributed pursuant to Paragraph (2) of Subsection D of Section 66-3-416 NMSA 1978 proportionate to the number of special registration plates issued in the name of the institution to all such special registration plates issued in the name of all institutions;

(7) to the armed forces veterans license fund, the amount to be distributed pursuant to Paragraph (2) of Subsection E of Section 66-3-419 NMSA 1978;

(8) to the children's trust fund, the amount to be distributed pursuant to Paragraph (2) of Subsection D of Section 66-3-420 NMSA 1978;

(9) to the state highway and transportation department, an amount equal to the fees collected pursuant to Section 66-5-35 NMSA 1978;

(10) to the state equalization guarantee distribution made annually pursuant to the general appropriation act, an amount equal to one hundred percent of the driver safety fee collected pursuant to Subsection D of Section 66-5-44 NMSA 1978;

(11) to the motorcycle training fund, two dollars (\$2.00) of each motorcycle registration fee collected pursuant to Section 66-6-1 NMSA 1978;

(12) to the highway infrastructure fund, all tire recycling fees collected pursuant to the provisions of Sections 66-6-1, 66-6-2, 66-6-4, 66-6-5 and 66-6-8 NMSA 1978;

(13) to each county, an amount equal to fifty percent of the fees collected pursuant to Section 66-6-19 NMSA 1978 multiplied by a fraction, the numerator of which is the total mileage of public roads maintained by the county and the denominator of which is the total mileage of public roads maintained by all counties in the state; and

(14) to the litter control and beautification fund, an amount equal to the fees collected pursuant to Section 66-6-6.2 NMSA 1978.

B. The balance, exclusive of unidentified remittances, shall be distributed in accordance with Section 66-6-23.1 NMSA 1978.

C. If any of the paragraphs, subsections or sections referred to in

Subsection A of this section are recompiled or otherwise re-designated without a corresponding change to Subsection A of this section, the reference in Subsection A of this section shall be construed to be the recompiled or re-designated paragraph, subsection or section."

Section 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.--Except for Section 1 of this act, the effective date of the provisions of this act is January 1, 2004. The effective date of the provisions of Section 1 of this act is July 1, 2003.